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DOCUMENT NO. 3

NO CHANGE IN CLASS.

RECLASSIFIED

CLASS CHANGED TO: TS S D

NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010

AUTH: MM TS-2

DATE: 5 JUN 1980 REVIEWER:

4 November 1959

Copy No. C 65

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept. review completed

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

4 November 1959

DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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USSR-France: In an apparent effort to increase support for the draft Moroccan resolution which calls on France to refrain from beginning nuclear testing, the Soviet chief delegate to the United Nations is warning [redacted] that such French action would free the USSR to resume testing. In what is probably an accurate reflection of Soviet intentions, the Soviet delegate to the test-cessation talks in Geneva told a UN official recently that the USSR would resume testing only if the United States or Britain did so, giving the impression that a French test would be of no great importance.)

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

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Egypt-Sudan: An agreement reportedly resolving the long dispute between Cairo and Khartoum over the sharing of the Nile waters is scheduled to be signed this week. The terms of the settlement reported by a semi-official Egyptian newspaper

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indicate that Egyptian negotiators made major concessions and that most of the Sudanese demands were met. Egypt will receive about 75 percent of the useable Nile flow, according to the report, and will pay the equivalent of \$53,050,000 in indemnities for Sudanese lands to be flooded by the Aswan High Dam. Construction is scheduled to begin next month.

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DAILY BRIEF

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III. THE WEST

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*Cuba-USSR: On 3 November Revolucion, the official daily of Fidel Castro's "26th of July Movement," advocated that Soviet Deputy Premier Mikoyan, who will inaugurate the Soviet exhibition in Mexico on 22 November, be invited to visit Cuba as a prelude to the resumption of diplomatic relations and to expanded trade between Cuba and the USSR.

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LATE ITEM

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*Panama: Further anti-American rioting and attempted incursions into the Canal Zone may follow yesterday's outbreaks. The wounding of several Panamanians by US troops, who defended Canal Zone entrances when the Panamanian National Guard failed to do so, may serve as a pretext for extremists to provoke additional disorder during the next few days. Panamanian grievances against the American administration of the Canal Zone are being exploited by nationalist politicians maneuvering in anticipation of next May's presidential election. The [redacted] ruling oligarchy in Panama appears willing to use anti-American sentiment regarding the Canal Zone in order to divert attention from the underlying social discontent of the lower income groups.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Cuba May Re-establish Relations With USSR

The Castro government may be planning to resume relations with the USSR and to open trade relations with East Germany. On 3 November the semi-official daily Revolucion urged that Soviet First Deputy Premier Mikoyan be invited to visit Cuba as the first step toward renewed relations and further trade with the USSR. Ambassador Bonsal in Havana has reported that East German economic officials are expected in Cuba soon, and he considers it quite likely that some rapprochement may be contemplated.

Moscow has announced that Mikoyan will inaugurate the Soviet exhibition in Mexico City on 22 November, and it is likely that he would accept an official Cuban invitation. The USSR would welcome the re-establishment of relations with Cuba, broken in 1952, as a means of encouraging nationalistic and anti-American movements throughout Latin America. A Soviet cultural official made an unpublicized visit to Havana in October, and the USSR has ordered 500,000 tons of Cuban sugar during 1959, the largest amount since 1955.

Cuba's foreign policy has been increasingly defiant of the US in the UN, OAS, and elsewhere. Foreign Minister Raul Roa has recently appeared to be more closely identified with the leftist extremists now believed to be dominant in the Castro government. "Che" Guevara, a pro-Communist, who reportedly exercises great influence over Castro in matters of foreign and economic policy, was reliably quoted in March 1959 as being determined to restore diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union. [redacted]

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